

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)
SUBJECT Nonfulfilment of Production Quotas
in the DDR Nationalized Building
Industry

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2. During each quarter of 1950, VVB firms included in the production plan submitted an analysis of unfulfilled targets. A similar analysis was made for the first time by the VVB building industry for the fourth quarter of 1950. Those firms which reported unfulfilled targets were

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required to give the reasons for nonfulfilment and indicate the percentage of production that was achieved.

Zone level firms (VEB (Z))

3. Seventy-four zone level building firms returned questionnaires. Only 13 of these made any comments, and then only next to the items "Other Major Construction in the DDR, Länder, and Communes", and "General Repairs in the DDR, Länder, and Communes", even though the items "Construction and Repair of Dwellings in the DDR, Länder, and Communes", and "Major Construction for the Soviet-owned Firms (SAG's) and other Construction for Soviet Offices" also showed that production had fallen short of the target.
4. Two firms with 876 employees each expressed the need for skilled building labor next to the items "Other Major Construction of the DDR, Länder, and Communes" and "General Repairs in the DDR, Länder, and Communes". All thirteen firms ascribed the nonfulfilment of quotas to work stoppages, which were primarily caused by transportation difficulties and winter weather conditions which affect the building industry. Two firms reported a lack of orders, however, while a third shut down because of a breakdown of machinery. One firm was without contracts.
5. Complaints about shortages of materials and machines are made in eleven instances. These represent the burden of complaints which occur equally often at all three levels. Firms report repeatedly on inadequate supplies of lime, cement, bricks, lumber, nails, scaffolding, binding wire, wire tacks, installation equipment, various types of iron and steel, stove tiles, sacks, and gasoline, as well as on the lack of cement mixers, lime mixers, tar spraying machines, conveyor belts, building hoists, vehicles, and tires.

Land level firms (VEB (L))

6. Of 116 building firms reporting, only nine firms with a total of 3,000 workers commented on the following items:
 - a. Construction and Repairs of Dwellings for the DDR, Länder, and Communes,
 - b. New Farm Settlers' (Neubauern) Program,
 - c. Other Major Construction for the DDR, Länder, and Communes.
7. Most complaints referred to the item "Other Major Construction for the DDR, Länder, and Communes". The burden of complaints, here, as at zone level, concerned the shortage of building materials, machines, and spare parts. Weather conditions and transport difficulties also were responsible for stoppages, most of which lasted several weeks. Three plants had insufficient funds, while another was without contracts. Two plants require technical staff personnel and construction workers.

Commune level firms (VEB (K))

8. The communal level, with approximately 400 building firms reporting, made the most complaints, and even in respect to those items the quotas of which, taken collectively, were exceeded. Besides a severe shortage of materials and production equipment, skilled building labor was scarce. Weather conditions and transportation difficulties caused ten firms to shut down on the average of from two to three weeks. Numerous firms gave faulty planning as the reason for nonfulfilment and one firm complained about a shortage of cash. The majority of commune level firms received no questionnaire.

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